

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Neil A. A. Simpson et al. §
Serial No.: 10/614,427 § Group Art Unit: 3672
Confirmation No.: 7722 § Examiner: William P. Neuder
Filed: July 7, 2003 § Customer No. 36735
For: FORMED TUBULARS §

MAIL STOP AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) IN RESPONSE TO FINAL
OFFICE ACTION DATED JANUARY 31, 2007**

In response to the Final Office Action dated January 31, 2007, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on April 30, 2007, Applicants herewith request continued examination. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS/0091/WBP \$790 for an RCE and for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 16 of this paper.